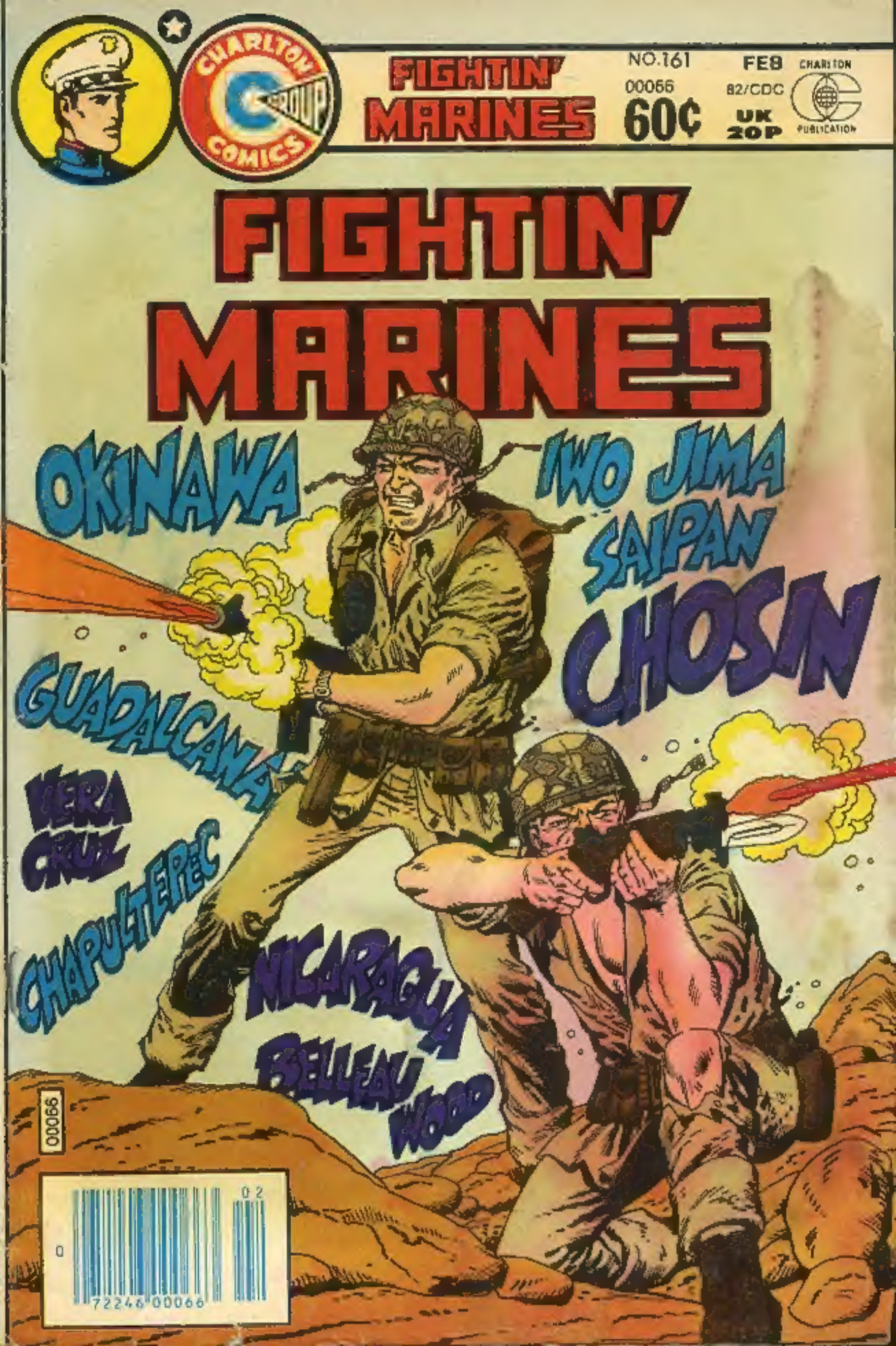
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MORE THAN A MAN!
I HAD AN INFECTED FOOT AND THE MEDIC I FINALLY GOT TO SEE UP NORTH OF PORK CHOP HILL TOLD ME TO GET MY TAIL TO A REAL HOSPITAL WHERE THEY'D FIX IT UP FOR ME! I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO SNAG A RIDE WITH A CAPTAIN FROM REGIMENTAL C.P. --- BUT WE DIDN'T QUITE MAKE IT TO THE REAR!
POW

FIGHTIN' MARINES Vol. 14, No. 161, February, 1982

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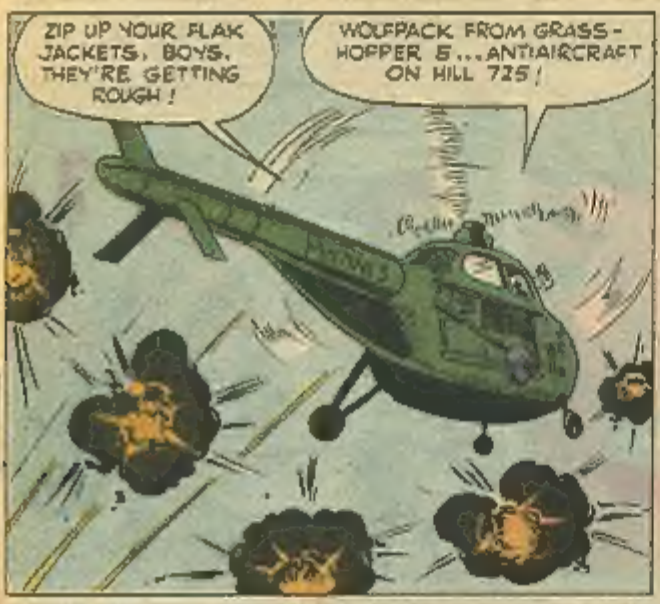
THERE WASN'T TIME TO BE POLITE! I KNEW THE CAPTAIN WAS HURT... AND I COULDN'T TAKE THE TIME TO BE GENTLE WITH HIM AS I GRABBED A FISTFUL OF HIS JACKET AND HEADED FOR COVER...
BOOOOM
ZIP
ZING
ZIP
ZING
THEY ZEROED IN JUST AS I GOT BEYOND THE ROCKS! I DROPPED THE OFFICER AND DOVE FOR DIRT...
PEEOONG
ZING
ZIP
THANKS FOR DRAGGING ME HERE, TUZEK! HOW BAD OFF ARE WE?
COULDN'T BE WORSE, SIR. CCF IS OUT IN THE ROCKS PAST THE JEEP... AND I THINK SOME OF 'EM SPLIT OFF TO CIRCLE AROUND BEHIND US ON THE SLOPE!
SOON'S THEY GET IN POSITION ABOVE US, THEY'LL FINISH US OFF!

MY GREASE GUN IS AT THE JEEP! IF I HAD IT...
HERE'S MY M1, SKIPPER. I'LL GET YOUR AUTOMATIC!
I WASN'T BEING SO BRAVE... THE WAY I HAD IT FIGURED, I WAS AS GOOD AS DEAD ALREADY. I JUST WANTED TO TAKE AS MANY C.C.F. CREEPS WITH ME AS I COULD...
ZING
ZIIIP!
THIS'LL GIVE 'EM A HEADACHE FOR A MINUTE...
ZIN
BARROOM
I GOT A FEW... BUT THE CHINAMAN CUTTING IN FROM BEHIND ME HAD ME COLD... OR HE WOULD'VE IF THE CAPTAIN HADN'T NAILED HIM WITH MY M1...
KRAK
RAT-TAT-TAT

I'D ABOUT HAD IT! MY FOOT WAS A FLAMING PAIN... AND EVERY BONE IN MY HALF-FROZEN BODY ACHED WITH FATIGUE!
LITTLE MORE LIKE THIS AND I'LL JUST SET DOWN IN THE ROAD AND CRY!
ZING
ZIP
I JUST GOT TO KOREA, TUZEK... AND I HAD MY DOUBTS ABOUT YOU NEW HANDS IN THE CORPS! SON, I DON'T HAVE ANY DOUBTS NOW!
HAVE A SMOKE, TUZEK?
SAVE 'EM UP... THE REDS SMELL AMERICAN CIGARETTES FROM MILES AWAY!
ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE COMMIES STARTED FIRING FASTER... AND THEN WE HEARD THE RHYTHMIC BEAT OF THE CHOPPER DROPPING IN TO LAND! IT WAS A MARINE BIRD, ALL RIGHT!
CHOPPA
CHOPPA
CHOP
CHOP
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA HAVE THE LAST LAUGH ON THE COMMIES, SKIP! HERE COMES AN ANGEL...
HAD TO MOVE FAST... SORE FOOT AND ALL I LOOKED LIKE A TRACK STAR GETTING TO THE CHOPPER...
CHOPPA CHOP
TAKE OFF... HILL DOWN THERE IS CRAWLIN' WITH COMMIES!


ZIP UP YOUR FLAK JACKETS, BOYS. THEY'RE GETTING ROUGH!
WOLFPACK FROM GRASS-HOPPER 5...ANTIAIRCRAFT ON HILL 725!

ONE THING ABOUT THE MARINE FLEET AIR WING...THEY DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME!
WOOOOSH!

YOU'LL BE OUT OF ACTION FOR AWHILE, TUZEK! YOU GOT ANY STRIPES AT ALL?
I WAS A BUCK SERGEANT BUT I GOT OUT OF LINE! I'M A CORPORAL NOW, SIR!

AS FOR BEIN' OUT OF ACTION, I THINK I'LL MAKE IT BACK TO THE C.I. IN A DAY OR TWO! THE MEDIC SAYS THEY CAN TAKE OUT THE INFECTION, SEW ME UP, AND CERTIFY ME FIT FOR LIMITED DUTY!

OUR PLATOON LEADER GOT KNOCKED OFF LAST WEEK AND LT. GAMAGE IS SORTA GREEN! WE'RE SHORT ON EXPERIENCED N.C.O.'S UP THERE...SO IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT FOR ME TO STAY AWAY TOO LONG!

I LET 'EM TAKE MY DIRTY GEAR AND I WASHED OFF SOME OF THE NORTH KOREAN REAL ESTATE, THEN I SHAVED! I ALMOST TORE OFF HALF MY FROST-BITTEN FACE DOING IT... AND THEN I LIMPED AROUND TRYING TO MAKE FRIENDS...
CAPTAIN, TELL THIS MARINE TO BEHAVE HIMSELF!

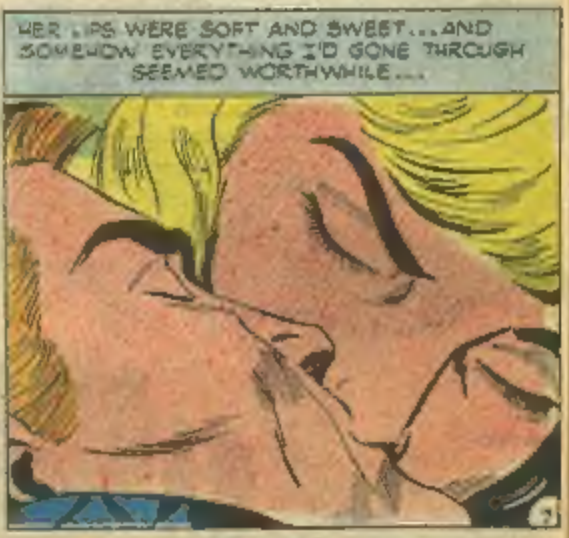
I'M JUST TRYING TO FIND A MAN WITH A KNIFE TO CUT AWAY A FEW TOES, NURSE!
DON'T ACT SO INNOCENT, MARINE! COME WITH ME, DR. SAMUELS IS ON DUTY!

DR. SAMUELS HAD A ROUGH TOUCH... BUT THE PRETTY BLOND WAS GENTLE... SO I DIDN'T MIND TOO MUCH!

TOOK ABOUT AN HOUR... BUT MY FOOT FELT GREAT WHEN HE FINISHED...
WE'LL KEEP YOU HERE FOR AT LEAST A WEEK, MISTER...
CAN'T SPARE THE TIME, DOC! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO MY OUTFIT!

DON'T BE FOOLISH! STAY HERE WITH US TILL YOUR FOOT IS HEALED!
IF YOU'LL TUCK ME IN, NURSE...

I LET HER BABY ME A LITTLE AND I LOVED EVERY MINUTE OF IT...
I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D CONSIDER KISSIN' A FELLA GOOD NIGHT?
TUCKING IN OUR PATIENTS AND KISSING THEM GOOD-NIGHT IS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY BUT...


HER LIPS WERE SOFT AND SWEET... AND SOMEHOW EVERYTHING I'D GONE THROUGH SEEMED WORTHWHILE...

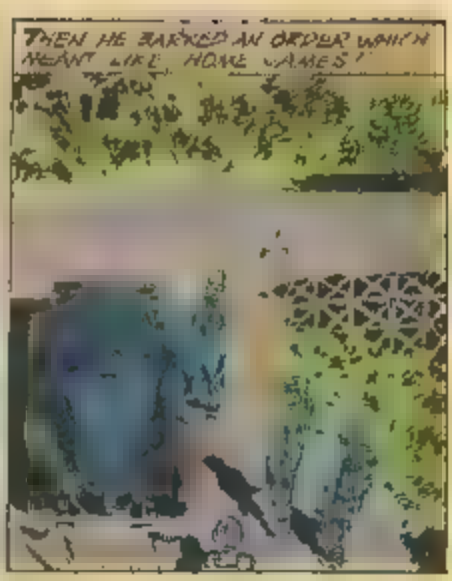
ABOUT 4 NEXT MORNING, I GOT READY TO GO BACK UP! I'D ALREADY MADE ARRANGEMENTS...
A MEDIC ON HOSPITAL DUTY NOW HAD PARKED THE JEEP LOADED WITH .30 CAL. AMMO PLUS A COUPLE BOXES OF .50 S! HE KNEW ABOUT MY FOOT...BUT HE KNEW A BAD FOOT DIDN'T MATTER MUCH UP ON THE LINE!
MADE IT JUST IN TIME TO PASS OUT THE AMMO AND STACK THE .50 CAL. STUFF BY THE HEAVY M.G.! IT WAS NEEDED...IF I HADN'T PLAYED HERO, THE COMMIES WOULD HAVE OVERRUN THE HILL!
WE NEED AIR SUPPORT... IF CPL. TUZEK HADN'T RETURNED WITH AMMUNITION WE'D ALL BE DEAD! HE'S MANNING THE M.G. NOW ...AND HE'S DOIN' ALL OF THIS WITH A FOOT THAT WAS OPERATED ON LAST NIGHT!
THERE HE IS! I NEED HIM BADLY... BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM ON DUTY UP HERE FOR AT LEAST TWO WEEKS!
WE HEARD ABOUT THIS JOKER, SIR! DON'T WORRY, WE'LL NAIL HIM DOWN!
THIS TIME, I DIDN'T FIGHT IT! MATTER OF FACT, MY WHOLE LEG WAS AGONY... BUT I REALLY DIDN'T CARE... NOT WITH THE BLONDE TAKING CARE OF ME!
THE END

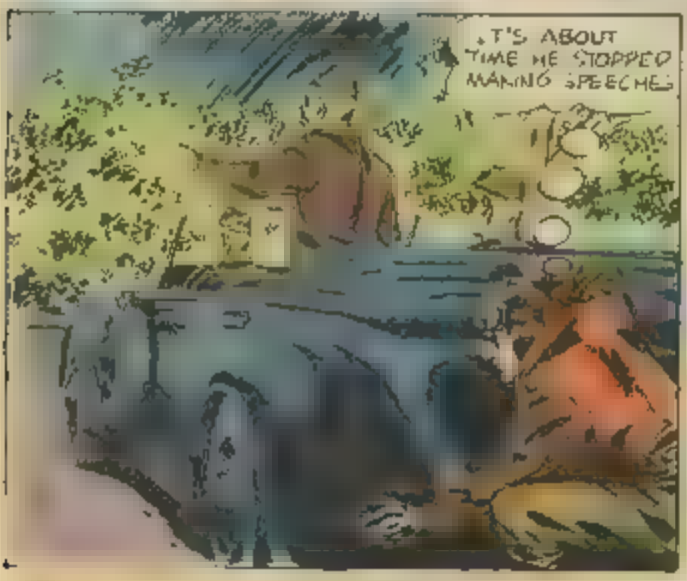
I HAD THE JAPS SURROUNDED

THIS WAS IN NOVEMBER 1943 AND I CAUGHT THIS JAP STRAGGLER IN THE GILBERT ISLANDS AND LOCKED ONTO HIS TAIL! HE STUNTED AROUND TRYING TO GET AWAY, THEN DOVE FOR A SMALL ISLAND ABOUT SIX MILES SOUTH OF TARAWA! LIKE ANY GOOD MARINE, I DISREGARDED THE FLAK AND SOCKED IT TO THAT ZERO JOCKEY... BUT AN M.G. NEAR AN AMMO BASE WAS STITCHING ME UP THE SAME TIME

GOTTA GET SOME ALTITUDE BUT NOT TOO MUCH! MAYBE THEY WON'T SEE MY PARACHUTE AND COME LOOKIN' FOR ME!
THROTTLE BACK ON COURSE SETTING 165 DEGREES SET AUTOMATIC PILOT AND
...BAIL OUT!
ON SHORE, THE JAPS WERE TAKING BOWS WHILE MY BIG FIGHTER PLANE WAS STEADY ON COURSE 165!
AH, SO!
AH, SO!
IF I STAYED WITH THE PLANE I COULDN'T'VE DONE IT BETTER! IT SLANTED DOWN AT THAT ISLAND...
BEE-YOO-TIFUL!

THEY HAD PLENTY OF GRIEF ON THE ISLAND MY DEFUNCT FIGHTER GOT INTO THEIR COOKIE JARS! THE GOODIES WERE GOING UP!
ALL HANDS ARE TOO BUSY FIGHTING THE FIRES TO NOTICE ME!
I HAD JUST ONE REGRET MAJOR CALE OR ALH THE GRAND COMMANDER PILOT I MAY ASK IT! HE'D HAVE BRACKED IT UP IN THE WARDROOM NEEDLE! THE NAVY PILOT WOULD ALWAYS PUT US DOWN!
IF I GET A CHANCE I'LL WRITE IT OUT TO BY LOFT THE MESSAGE SOME WAY!
THEY GOT THE FIRES OUT. NOW THE CO WILL HAVE THEM SEARCH THE ISLAND!
THEY MAY FIND MY TRACKS A... THE BEACH I GOT TO FIND A GOOD PLACE TO HIDE!





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I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TIE YOU UP GENERAL! JUST HOLD STILL AND YOU WON'T
I BE STILL!
SUCKER!
GOT TO TIE HIM UP BEFORE HE WAKES UP SCREAMING!
10 MINUTES LATER
DON'T PANIC, GENERAL I WON'T KILL YOU UNLESS I GOT TO! ONE REASON S IF SOMEONE COMES IN THAT DOOR! YOU READ ME?
I'M GOING TO PUT OUT THE LIGHTS JUST SIT QUIETLY DIG?
THIS ISLAND IS TOP HEAVY WITH AIRCRAFT GASOLINE AND BOMBS! IT'S THE CENTRAL PACIFIC SUPPLY DUMP FOR THE NIP CARRIERS! IF I COULD JUST CALL IN A STRIKE...

THE JAP WAS SITTING BY THE RADIO, READING AND SMOKING SOMETHING THAT SMELLED LIKE OLD OVERSHOES.
HE LOOKS SLEEPY
THIS CHEAP HELP IF HE'S LUCKY HE WON'T WAKE UP
IT WAS ON 6 MEGACYCLES MARINE COMBAT FREQUENCY IS RIGHT ABOUT HERE! NOW..
ROVERBOY FROM GREEN ROVER THREE! ROVERBOY FROM GREEN ROVER THREE! COME IN, URGENT!
GREEN ROVER THREE FROM ROVERBOY WHAT'S UP DOC?
I SMEARED A ZERO OVER THIS ISLAND SIX MILES SOUTH OF TARAWA. WADED ASHORE. THEY'VE GOT AMMO AND GAS STOCKPILED. I THINK AN AIR STRIKE IN THE MORNING OUGHT TO BE WORTH THE EFFORT
ROGER GREEN ROVER THREE WILL PASS YOUR MESSAGE
CREEP!

MAJOR ORLACH WAS SHOWN THE MESSAGE!
THE ADMIRAL READ IT, JAKE HE'S ORDERING ALL PLANES READY FOR TAKE OFF AT 0615 HOURS!
RED EGAN IS A GOOD MARINE I HOPE HE'S ABLE TO DUCK WHEN WE UNLOAD!
I WAS READY BEFORE SUNUP THE JAPS HAD ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS ALL OVER THE ISLAND IF THEY WERE READY SOME OF MY BUDDIES WOULD DIE
CAN'T MAKE MY MOVE TOO SOON WHEN THE AIR RAID ALARM GOES OFF
LEADER TO ALL PILOTS KEEP AN EYE PEELED FOR RED EGAN DOWN THERE! OKAY LET'S GO!
I NAILED AS MANY JAP GUNNERS AS I COULD! ALL AROUND ME, BIG 500 POUNDERS WERE SETTING GAS FIRES EXPLODING STACKED AMMO PILES WHILE A ZILLION SLUGS RICOCHETED AROUND MY EARS!

SOMEONE SPOTTED ME AND MAJOR ORLACH CAME DOWN FOR A LOW PASS OVER THE CLEARING! I WAVED MY GOOD ARM HE SAW ME!
HE'S MOTIONING ME TOWARD THE BEACH! HE WON'T BE STUPID ENOUGH TO TRY TO LAND THERE... I HOPE!
HE'LL GET US BOTH KILLED! I NEVER EXPECTED TO LIVE FOREVER ANYHOW!
GET IN KNUCKLEHEAD WE GOTTA GET OFF BEFORE THE BOMBERS FINISH THEIR DROP
THE MAJOR HAD RIPPED SOME EQUIPMENT FROM BEHIND HIS SEAT SO I COULD SHOEHORN MYSELF INSIDE THEN.
WE REALLY CLOBBERED 'EM, SKIPPER!
YEAH, AND I'LL REALLY CLOBBER YOU FOR CHASING STRAYS WHEN WE REACH HOME BASE AFTER WHICH THE ADMIRAL WILL GIVE YOU A MEDAL
END

THE LONG RETREAT
I AIN'T BUGGIN' OUT ON THEM SARGE!
WAS BEING CAUGHT BY SIX DIVISIONS OF CHINESE COMMUNIST FORCES! NOW BEGINS ONE OF THE MOST INCREDIBLE
C-385
LOOK, KNUCKLEHEAD THERE'S A LOT O' COMMIES COMIN DOWN THE MSR. WE GOTTA SLOW 'EM DOWN TO GIVE THE OTHERS A CHANCE TO GIT OUT!
WE'LL HOLE UP JUST AROUND THE BEND. LOOK FOR BAZOOKAS, GRENADE LAUNCHERS ANY WEAPONS AT ALL!
MAIN SUPPLY ROUTE

AN INCH OF SNOW COVERS A DEAD MARINE OF THE 1/9 MARINES PFC DILL GENTLY REMOVES THE 1 5 INCH BAZOOKA FROM HIS COMRADES BACK
I'VE GOT A BAZOOKA SARGE HOW ABOUT LOADS?
I HEAR THEM, NCO MUST BE A MILLION OF THEM THEY GOT TRUCKS!
BE READY WITH THE BAZOOKA!
THEY GOT A WHO TRUCK SARGE FIRE!
YEAH NOW!
BARROOOOMMM
WHOOSSHH

ONE MORE TIME YOU BELLY DOWN.. NO SENSE N BOTH OF US GETTN HIT!
POW POW POW POW!
RUN, YA MEATHEAD! I GOTTA BUST THIS SO THE CHICOMS CAN'T USE IT ON US!
MUST'VE MISSED ME A THOUSAND TIMES ALREADY!
WE GOT PLENTY, ALL EVEN IF WE GET SCRAGGED, WE DO MORE N OUR SHARE BEFORE WE GOT HANGED!

IT'S SILENT OUT THERE NOW AND TWO HALF FROZEN MISERABLE MARINES HAVE A BLEAK TOMORROW TO THINK ABOUT
ARE WE LOSIN THE WAR, SARGE?
WELL YOU MIGHT SAY WE'RE WINNIN' THE HARD WAY SON!
WE DON'T HAVE ANY AIR COVER TODAY LAST I HEARD THE WEATHER REPORT CALLED FOR LOW OVERCAST AND SNOW! WHICH MEANS THE AIR FORCE CAN'T COME OVER TOMORROW EITHER!
THERE'S SOME COMMIES DOWN NEAR THOSE ROCKS HOMER! ONE OF THEM IS USIN' A LIGHT. MUST BE AN OFFICER CHECKIN' HIS MAPS! WHEN I GIVE THE WORD SQUEEZE OFF A CLIP, AIMED FIRE RIGHT THERE!
POW
THIS RANDOM FIRE ELIMINATES COLONEL YING SEE, A FIELD COMMANDER, AND TWO OF HIS TOP AIDES! THIS RESULTS IN A 16 HOUR DELAY OF THE ATTACK ON TOGORI!
POW POW

WHERE WE GOING, SARGE?
HUNT FOR A MARINE PLATOON... FIND A WAY TO FIGHT THE COMMIES!
TRUDGING A RIDGE PARALLEL TO THE MAIN SUPPLY ROUTE HEADING IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION, THE TWO MARINES HEAR A FAINT HUM THE VOICES OF THOUSANDS OF CHINESE TROOPS!
SSSSH! TAKE A LOOK DOWN THERE!
THOUSANDS OF THEM, SQUATTIN' DOWN THERE IN THE VALLEY! IF ONLY WE HAD SOME WAY...
WE GOT TO FIND A RADIO!
LOOK... THE MSR IS OVER TO THE EAST OF US. STRIKE THAT WAY ...TELL THE FIRST OFFICER YA FIND GIVE HIM THE COORDINATES I GOT MARKED ON THIS MAP! IF YA CAN,, BRING BACK A W/T RADIO TO ME HERE!
NO MEDAL WILL BE AWARDED FOR PFC DILL'S FLOUNDERING TREK ACROSS THE FROZEN RIDGES OF KOREA. BUT THE 19 YEAR OLD MARINE KEPT MOVING DESPITE NUMBING FEET AND EXHAUSTION!
AT 0545 HOURS, BEFORE DAWN, DILL FINDS BAKER COMPANY, 3RD BTN.
HE'S ONE OF US, SKIPPER!
CALL THE MEDIC!

PFC DILL IDENTIFIES HIMSELF FIRST. THEN PRODUCES THE MAP ON WHICH SGT RANKIN MARKED THE POSITION OF THE HIDDEN CCF FORCES!
THERE'S A BATTERY OF 155 mm ARTILLERY A MILE SOUTH! I CAN CONTACT THEM!
IF YA GIVE ME TWO SANDWICHES AND SOME COFFEE, I'LL GO BACK FER THE SARSE, SIR! ALSO A WALKIE-TALKIE... WE CAN CALL IN ARTILLERY CORRECTIONS FROM THE RIDGE!
VERY WELL, DILL... IF YOU THINK YOU CAN REACH HIM!
BACK AGAIN... FOUR MILES OF DEEP SNOW UPHILL AND DOWN...
HOPE RANKIN'S STILL ALIVE!
SGT RANKIN IS STILL THERE, BUT UNMOVING. PFC DILL INJUNS UP ON HIM...
PSSSST!
AHH! FROZE SOLID!
IF YA CAME BACK EMPTY-HANDED YUH'RE A DEAD GYRENÉ! GOT A RADIO? THEY'RE STILL DOWN THE VALLEY!
CLICK
I GOT GRUB! EAT FAST... BARRAGE STARTS IN ABOUT 12 MINUTES!
6

SLINGSHOT, THIS IS ORPHAN 1. GOT A TARGET! MAN, WHAT A TARGET. YOU GOT THE COORDINATES START THROWIN'. I'LL TELL YOU WHEN YOU'RE WASTIN' 'EM!
HERE IT COMES ORPHAN 1!
SGT. RANKIN CALLS IN CORRECTIONS. THE 155mm SHELLS CRASH ON TRUCKS AND TROOPS. THE HIDDEN CCF DIVISION IS SUDDENLY A DISORGANIZED, PANICKING MOB!
THAT'S IT. NOW SPREAD THE BARAGE... THEY'RE STARTING TO CLIMB OUT OF THE VALLEY!
MORE ON THE FLANK, N.C.O! I'LL TAKE THIS BUNCH!
CHICOMS, HOMER... COMIN' OVER THE RIDGE!
BAM

COVER MY SIDE, SARGE... I GOT TO RELOAD!
THIS IS MY LAST CLIP! RECKON WE DID OUR BIT. NOW THEY'LL NAIL US!
YOU WANT TO SURRENDER, COUNTRY BOY?
THAT THERE'S A DIRTY WORD, N.C.O.! NOW, GIT BUSY AN' USE UP THEM SHELLS... KILL AS MANY AS YUH CAN!
COME ON, HAYSEED... THEY SENT A FLYIN' TAXI FOR US!
I'M ON YORE TAIL, N.C.O.!
QUIT THAT, HOMER. YUH TRYIN' TO GET THEM SORE AT US?
DON'T MAKE SENSE TO TAKE AMMO BACK, N.C.O.!
LATER
I NEVER FIGURED WE'D RUN AWAY FROM THEM CHICOMS!
LIKE OUR GENERAL SAYS, BOOT... WE AIN'T RETREATIN' WE'RE ATTACKIN' IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION!
END